

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 03269 070718Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PM-05 /044 W

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FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8300
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
DIA WASHDC
SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 3269

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, SY, JO, SA
SUBJECT: REPORT OF SYRIAN-JORDANIAN-SAUDI AIR DEFENSE WARNING
SYSTEM

1. PERISCOPE PAGE OF INTERNATIONAL EDITION OF NEWSWEEK
JUNE 5 CARRIED FOLLOWING ITEM ENTITLED "MORE WORRY FOR ISRAEL."
"U.S. INTELLIGENCE HAS LEARNED THAT SAUDI ARABIA IS TALING
TO SYRIA AND JORDAN ABOUT LINKING THEIR AIR-DEFENSE WARNING
SYSTEMS TO PROVIDE A MUTUAL RADAR ALERT AGAINST ISRAELI
PLANES. THE SAUDIS SAY THAT ISRAELI RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS--
INCLUDING SOME BY F-15 FIGHTERS--SOMETIMES STRAY INTO SAUDI
SKIES AND ARE THUS A CAUSE OF CONCERN. BUT ISRAEL, ALREADY
TROUBLED BY THE U.S. PROMISE OF F-15S TO SAUDI ARABIA, IS
LIKELY TO REGARD THE AIR-ALERT NETWORK AS ANOTHER REASON
TO WORRY ABOUT THE SAUDIS."

2. THIS IS FIRST WE HAVE HEARD OF ANY SUCH PLAN. WE WOULD
APPRECIATE WHATEVER INFORMATION "US INTELLIGENCE" HAS
ON THIS SUBJECT.
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Message Attributes

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